



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/981,342	10/15/2001	Christopher M. Tobin	80398P438	5513
8791 7590 02/23/2006 BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030			EXAMINER BROOKS, MATTHEW L	
			ART UNIT 3629	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 02/23/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/981,342	TOBIN, CHRISTOPHER M.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matthew L. Brooks	3629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112 1st

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. **Claims 11 and 23 and 28** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The Applicant fails to enable the invention in that no considerations are given to determine an estimated travel time (such as weather, traffic, etc) to determine a formula or method or such would require undue experimentation on behalf of Examiner. Furthermore due to all of the factors involved even if the travel time was merely estimated based upon a distance to the location the accuracy of such a time would hardly be credible (see 101 below).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112 2nd

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 1-52 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Art Unit: 3629

5. With respect to claims 1-52 Examiner is uncertain of the term device identifier and what it is intended to encompass. There are several interpretations four of which were considered for purposes of examination. One is that the device identifier is a part of the actual computers device so that when a user is making a purchase on a site a vendor will know which device it came from. The second interpretation is that the device identifier is the biometric reader or fingerprint scanner. The third one is that the device identifier is the credit or smart or privacy card reader (although uncertain as to what the privacy card may comprise). OR the fourth of which could be the use of a digital wallet, privacy card or the coupling of the two. All of the above were known in the art at the time of the invention, Applicant is merely carrying out the process on a GPS computer, which was also known at the time as shown by Treyz below. (However Examiner notes now that if the "privacy card" is anything beyond that of the use of a smart card/wireless card in conjunction with a digital wallet (as shown in the reference attached example of "How the internet works"), Examiner reserves the right to make a possible election/restriction in a later action.

6. With respect to claim 13 Examiner is confused as to why "the *device* would be selected from the group". It may be possible for the device to have on of the selected items. Appropriate action is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

7. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

The basis of this rejection is set forth in a two-prong test of:

(1) whether the invention produces a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

The invention of **Claims 11 and 23 and 28** does not produce a “**concrete**” result. Usually, this question arises when a result cannot be assured. In other words, the process must have a result that can be substantially repeatable or the process must substantially produce the same result again. In re Swartz, 232 F.3d 862, 864 (Fed. Cir. 2000) (where asserted result produced by the claimed invention is “irreproducible” claim should be rejected under section 101). The opposite of “concrete” is unrepeatable or **unpredictable**. Resolving this question is dependent on the level of skill in the art. For example, if the claimed invention is for a process which requires a particular skill, to determine whether that process is substantially repeatable will necessarily require a determination of the level of skill of the ordinary artisan in that field. An appropriate rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be accompanied by a lack of enablement rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1, because the invention cannot operate as intended without undue experimentation. *See infra*.

After the examiner identifies and explains in the record the basis for why a claim is for an abstract idea with no practical application, then the burden shifts to the applicant to either amend the claim or make a showing of why the claim is eligible for patent protection. See, e.g., Brana, 51 F.3d at 1566, 34 USPQ2d at 1441; see generally MPEP 2107 (Utility Guidelines). In addition, if an application is rejected under section 101 because there is reason to doubt the asserted utility, then the examiner should also reject the claims for lack of enablement, because a person skilled in the art cannot practice the invention. In re Swartz, 232 F.3d 862, 863 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

Art Unit: 3629

In the present case Applicant's invention is unpredictable. No body can truly predict what will happen with all info gathered and combined and/or what factors or driving activities to determine an estimated travel time without the consideration of traffic report and or amount of drivers on road.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Note: Examiner has spoken with Applicant who has agreed to fix the application in regards to the associated Provisional Application and Examiner notes that the current non-provisional application will receive the earlier filing date of 12/8/2000 for purposes of examination.

10. **Claims 1-17 and 19-39** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly taught by Patent Number 6,526,335 (Treyz).

11. With respect to **Claim 1**: Treyz discloses

A system, comprising:

a device to couple to a position determining system to determine relative positions of a service vendor and the device (C1, 36-47 and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21), the device including a device identifier to authorize a transaction without revealing the

Art Unit: 3629

identity of a user of the device (C2, 52-65 and C15, 9-26 and C30, 60-68 and C31, 1-15);

an information database to couple to the device to provide the device with information about the service vendor (C1, 65-68 and C31, 60-68 and C87, 5-25 and C61, 1-68 and C57, 10-45 and C31, 48-68 and C51, 1-68 and C53, 10-60 62, 1-5 and 62, 20-60);

and a display coupled to the device to display the relative positions and the information about the service vendor on a map (C1, 36-47 and C2, 15-24 and C28, 37-43 and C31, 43-48 and C32, 1-13 and C87, 1-45).

12. With respect to **Claim 2**: Treyz discloses

wherein the device is a personal transaction device (C2, 52-65, see *** from 12 below).

13. With respect to **Claims 3 and 20 and 21 and 33 and 30**: Treyz discloses

(3) wherein the device is configured to provide the device identifier to a transaction privacy clearing house (TPCH) via a point of sale (POS) terminal when the device is coupled to the POS terminal (one example, see below too; C54, 30-60)

NOTE the above (3) is essentially the same as below (33):
contacting a financial processing system to transfer funds in an amount associated with a transaction from an account for the user to an account of a service vendor (one example, see *** below too; C54, 30-60).

Which is essentially the same as below (30):

Art Unit: 3629

conducting an electronic commerce transaction with a service vendor using the device without requiring a user of the device to reveal personal identification information to the service vendor (one example, see *** below too; C54, 30-60)

And in order to not reveal the identity to the service vendor and still be able to transfer funds (above); Treyz discloses keeping the identity of user separate and stored in that of a third party clearing house (below)

(20) wherein a correlation between the identity of the user and the device identifier is maintained separate from the personal transaction device and is used to authorize a transaction (one example, see *** below too; C54, 30-60).

(21) wherein the correlation is stored in a transaction privacy clearing house (TPCH) (one example, see *** below too; C54, 30-60).

Note: That a POS is equivalent to a Kiosk and/or gas pump, etc. That TPCH is equivalent to a computer to which is used to store the correlation of a device identifier and user identifier which then allows the transfer of funds to occur OR a third party biller OR central office computer OR order processing facility OR general financial transaction account wherein the merchant/vendor recognizes the account but not user C54, 53-60)

*** All though Treyz may not use the words "(TPCH) and/or (POS) and/or (electronic commerce transaction)"; Treyz system/method does carry out the same proposed steps and/or billing scenarios in the same manner as the Applicant, merely using different words. Also as to not revealing the identity of the user Treyz says in one embodiment

Art Unit: 3629

that the user's identity is verified at the users device. All (or MOST that are found by Examiner, there was simply too many to claim tree all of them) of the different billing/purchasing/e-commerce/transactions and relevant portions of disclosure regarding the limitations are shown at Figs 49-78 and C1, 65-68 and C2, 52-65 and C3, 5-10 and C15, 9-26 and C22, 10-68 and C23, 1-22 and C30, 60-68 and C31, 1-15 and C42, 10-45 and C44, 43-56 and C45, 8-68 and C46, 1-68 and C47, 1-68 and C48, 1-68 and C50, 15-68 and C51, 1-68 and C52, 8-42 and C52, 55-64 and C54, 1-68 and C5, 51-13 and C56, 15-38 and C57, 23-60 and C58, 4-12 and C60, 1-6 and C63, 40-68 and C64, 1-5 and C65, 37-63 and C76, 13-24 and C80, 37-52 and C88, 40-63).

14. With respect to **Claim 4**: Treyz discloses

wherein the POS terminal is a service vendor terminal (C2, 52-65 also see *** from 12 above).

15. With respect to **Claim 5**: Treyz discloses

wherein the service vendor is selected from the group consisting of a gas station, a hotel, an airline, a merchant, and a restaurant (C2, 52-65).

16. With respect to **Claim 6 and 31**: Treyz discloses

wherein the position determining system is a Global Positioning System (GPS) (C1, 36-47 and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21).

17. With respect to **Claim 7**: Treyz discloses

Art Unit: 3629

wherein the display has a first part to display the map and a second part to display service vendor data and other data (C1, 36-47 and C2, 15-24 and C17, 33-40 and C28, 37-43 and C31, 43-48 and C32, 1-13 and C87, 1-45) .

18. With respect to **Claim 8**: Treyz discloses

wherein a portion of the service vendor data and a portion of the other data is displayed in real-time on the map (C2,15-24 "location sensitive" and C4, 81-37 and C1, 36-47 and C2, 15-24 and C28, 37-43 and C31, 43-48 and C32, 1-13 and C76, 50-60 and C87, 1-45) .

19. With respect to **Claim 9**: Treyz discloses

wherein the service vendor data comprises pricing information, location information, coupon information, and driving instructions (C2,15-24 "location sensitive" and C3, 13-20 and C38, 39-46 and C39, 10-37 and C64, 42-68).

20. With respect to **Claim 10**: Treyz discloses

wherein the other data comprises a numerical representation of a relative distance between the service vendor and the device (C2,15-24 "location sensitive" and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21 "with in a number of miles").

21. With respect to **Claim 11 and 23 and 28**: Treyz discloses

wherein the numerical representation comprises a first number representing an estimated distance in miles or kilometers separating the device from a service vendor location, and further comprises a second number representing an estimated travel time required to traverse the estimated distance (C2,15-24 "location sensitive" and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21 "with in a number of miles" and because Treyz shows the ability to

Art Unit: 3629

“gather traffic report information” to user for selected route it must have the ability to estimate a travel time required to traverse the estimated distance See Fig 71 and C69, 19-53).

22. With respect to **Claim 12 and 32**: Treyz discloses
wherein the position determining system is a vehicle's onboard navigation system (C1, 25-35 “mounted in dash of automobile”).

23. With respect to **Claim 13**: Treyz discloses
wherein the device is selected from the group consisting of a privacy card, a digital wallet, and a privacy card configured to be coupled to a digital wallet (C13, 58-68 and C17, 55-64 and C45, 22-45).

24. With respect to **Claim 14**: Treyz discloses
wherein the device further comprises a biometric security device (C15, 9-26).

25. With respect to **Claim 15**: Treyz discloses
wherein the biometric security device comprises a fingerprint scanner (C15, 9-26 and C30, 44-53).

26. With respect to **Claim 16**: Treyz discloses
wherein the device further comprises a magnetic stripe mechanism to read and encode a magnetic stripe of one of a credit card, a smart card, or a privacy card (C13, 58-68 and C17, 55-64 and C45, 22-45 and C46, 20-30).

27. With respect to **Claim 17**: Treyz discloses
An electronic user device for locating service vendors and performing transactions, the device comprising:

Art Unit: 3629

a communication logic to communicate with a position determining system to determine relative positions between the device and a vendor, and further to transmit a device identifier to authorize a transaction without revealing an identity of a user of the device (C1, 36-47 and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21 and C2, 52-65 and C15, 9-26 and C87, 1-45); and

a mapping logic coupled to the communication logic to display relative positions of the device and a service vendor on a map (C1, 36-47 and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21 and C87, 1-45).

28. With respect to **Claim 19**: Treyz discloses

a display coupled to the mapping logic for displaying the map (C1, 36-47 and C2, 15-24 and C28, 37-43 and C31, 43-48 and C32, 1-13 and C87, 1-45).

29. With respect to **Claim 22**: Treyz discloses

wherein the communication logic is further configured to communicate with an information database to retrieve data for the service vendor, and wherein the mapping logic is further calculated to display the data for the service vendor on the map (C1, 36-47 and C11, 37-68 and C12, 1-21 and C60, 59-68 and C87, 1-45).

30. With respect to **Claim 24**: Treyz discloses

wherein the communication logic is selected from the group consisting of a smart card chip interface, a magnetic stripe, and a wireless connection (C11, 1-35 and C13, 58-68).

31. With respect to **Claim 25**: Treyz discloses

A method to enable a user to locate a service vendor, the method comprising:

Art Unit: 3629

coupling a user device to a position determining system, the device including a device identifier to authorize a transaction without revealing the identity of the user (C2, 52-65 and C15, 9-26 and C30, 60-68 and C31, 1-15); and

displaying a location for a service vendor obtained from the position determining system relative to a position for the device (C61, 1-68 and C57, 10-45 and C31, 48-68 and C51, 1-68 and C53, 10-60 62, 1-5 and 62, 20-60 and C87, 1-45).

32. With respect to **Claim 26**: Treyz discloses

retrieving a map from an information database; and displaying the map on a display screen coupled to the device (C87, 5-25 and C61, 1-68 and C57, 10-45 and C31, 48-68 and C51, 1-68 and C53, 10-60 62, 1-5 and 62, 20-60 and C87, 1-45).

33. With respect to **Claim 27**: Treyz discloses

displaying other information on the display screen (C3, 13-20 and).

34. With respect to **Claim 29**: Treyz discloses

wherein the other information is selected from the group consisting of service vendor logos, service vendor prices, service vendor specific hyperlinks, and service vendor coupon hyperlinks (C3, 13-20 and C38, 39-46 and C39, 10-37 and C64, 42-68).

35. With respect to **Claim 34**: Treyz discloses

activating a transponder associated with the device to conduct an electronic commerce transaction with a point-of-sale terminal (Treyz teaches his system/method could use a satellite as one option of a network; C10, 55-68 and C12, 54-63 and C14, 57-68 and C87, 58-68; it is well known that a transponder is a fancy name for radio relay equipment on board a communications satellite, thus because Treyz discloses the

Art Unit: 3629

use of satellite, in order to carry out the invention using a satellite a transponder would inherently have to be used to carry out Treyz's proposed e-commerce transactions or to use one in a satellite system would have been obvious).

36. With respect to **Claim 35**: Treyz discloses

using the device to locate a closest service vendor (C61, 25-35 and C44, 1-43 and C51, 1-68 and C53, 10-60 and C87, 1-45).

37. With respect to **Claim 36 and 37 and 38**: Treyz discloses

using the device to locate a lowest price commodity and wherein the commodity is gasoline (C61, 25-35 and C44, 1-43 and C51, 1-68 and C53, 10-60).

38. With respect to **Claim 39**: Treyz discloses

using the device to locate a service vendor that accepts electronic commerce payments (C61, 25-35 and C44, 1-43 and C46, 35-45 and C51, 1-68 and C53, 10-60 and C60, 1-5).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

39. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

40. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148

USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining

obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.

Art Unit: 3629

3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

41. **Claims 18** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treyz; and **Claims 11 and 23 and 28 and 34** rejected alternatively under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treyz.

42. With respect to **Claim 18**: Treyz discloses all of the limitations as disclosed above. Furthermore Treyz discloses throughout the invention secure e-commerce transactions taking place over a web-enabled device.

Treyz arguable does not disclose a "secure communication channel". However the use of a "secure channel" to carry out the type of transactions that the Treyz invention accomplishes was old and well known in the art of e-commerce at the time of the invention. Furthermore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a secure channel because it ensures that the transactional data would be hard for someone to break into and to make sense of the exchanged financial data.

43. With respect to **Claim 11 and 23 and 28**: Treyz discloses all of the limitations as disclosed above. Most relevant for the limitation discussed here, Treyz gives a user a graphical depiction and a numerical representation of the distance and relevant traffic reports of the traveling distance and route between a real-time location of the vehicle and determined service vendor, Treyz even offers alternative routes and shortcuts to a user.

Arguably, Treyz does not disclose giving a second numerical representation of

Art Unit: 3629

an estimated travel time, but due to all of the information that Treyz gives to a user a user could easily estimate one. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to suggest an estimated travel time because it would automate the calculation that the user him/herself would have to make.

Furthermore, the concept of entering in a current location and desired destination onto a GUI, and then providing a user with directions to said destination and an estimated travel time was old and well known within the art. (Supporting "old and well known" documentation is provided, but not yet relied upon, see attached pro-quest docs with stars).

44. With respect to **Claim 34**: Treyz discloses all of the limitations as shown above. Most relevant for this limitation is the use of a satellite (C87, 58-68 and C10, 55-68 and C12, 54-63 and C14, 57-68).

In arguendo, Treyz fails to disclose the use of a "transponder".

However, it is well known that a transponder is a fancy name for radio relay equipment on board a communications satellite, thus because Treyz discloses the use of satellite, in order to carry out the invention using a satellite a transponder would inherently have to be used to carry out Treyz's proposed e-commerce transactions or to use one in a satellite system would have been obvious because they are great for amplifying a weak signal on a power limited system such as Treyz.

Conclusion

45. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

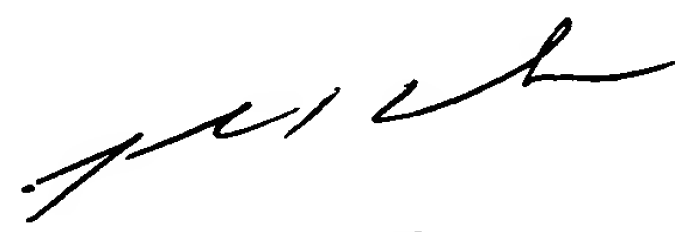
- A. Newton's Dictionary, relevant definitions attached herein.
- B. Patent Number: 5,959,577
- C. Quick "pro-quest" search documents for "an estimated travel time" attached.
- D. "How the Internet Works"; Copyright 1999; relevant pages attached herein; showing the use of a digital wallet was old and well known.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew L. Brooks whose telephone number is (571) 272-8112. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday; 8 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-8112. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MLB
2/10/05



JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600